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State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

GENERAL

1. US comments on Israeli reaction to representations--The Department of State has informed US Representative McDonald in Tel Aviv of its surprise at the comments made by Israeli officials on the US representations concerning Israel's invasion of Egypt. The Department instructs McDonald to inform the PGI (Provisional Government of Israel) that the US has important interests in the Middle East and that the Israelis therefore have no just grounds on which to resent the fact that the US should react strongly to any action by either Israelis or Arabs which might threaten to enlarge the Palestine conflict. McDonald is also to inform the PGI that the US is making strong representations to Egypt concerning Egyptian hostilities against Israel.

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US representations to Egypt--The Department of State has instructed US Embassy Cairo to inform King Farouk of the deep concern of the US over the renewed outbreak of hostilities between Israeli and Egyptian forces in the Negeb and to express the conviction of the US Government and people that the time has come to make peace in Palestine. The Embassy is to point out that the Provisional Government of Israel, in response to US representations, has promised to withdraw its forces from Egypt and that the US expects Egypt to act with "wise restraint" concerning further hostilities against Israel. The Embassy is also to inform Farouk that the US would be encouraged if the Egyptian Government would promptly undertake armistice negotiations with Israel as recommended by the Security Council on 16 November.

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NO. 628

Document No. 002

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Date:

13 MAR 1978

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